



## MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

United States Gypsum Company  
125 South Franklin Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60606-4678

Date Issued: September 23, 1996  
Product Safety: (800) 507-8899

### SECTION I

PRODUCT: **SHEETROCK® Two-Purpose Joint Compound - TOTAL**  
**Ready Mixed**

CHEMICAL FAMILY: Aqueous mixture of limestone and vinyl acetate polymer

### SECTION II INGREDIENTS

MATERIAL	Wt%	TLV mg/m <sup>3</sup>	PEL mg/m <sup>3</sup>	CAS NUMBER
limestone	> 50	10	15(T)/5(R)	1317-65-3
water	< 40	(NE)	(NE)	7732-18-5
mica	< 5	3(R)	3(R)	12001-26-2
expanded perlite	< 5	10	15(T)/5(R)	93763-70-3
attapulgit	< 5	(NE)	(NE)	12174-11-7
vinyl acetate polymer	< 5	(NE)	(NE)	9003-20-7
vinyl acetate monomer	trace	10ppm	10ppm	108-05-4
acetaldehyde	trace	100ppm	100ppm	75-07-0
silica-crystalline, respirable	trace	0.1(R)	0.1(R)	14808-60-7

(T) - Total (R) - Respirable (NE) - Not Established

All components are included on the TSCA inventory.

### SECTION III PHYSICAL DATA

APPEARANCE AND ODOR:	Off white paste; low odor.
BOILING POINT:	212°F
MELTING/FREEZING POINT:	32°F
SPECIFIC GRAVITY (H <sub>2</sub> O = 1):	1.6
HARDENING TIME:	Varies. Check usage and/or product specification data for product.
pH range:	7-8.5
VAPOR PRESSURE:	17 @ 20°C
Volatile Organic Compounds:	< 5 g/L



**SECTION IV  
FIRE AND EXPLOSION HAZARD DATA**

FLASH POINT (METHOD USED): Noncombustible  
SPECIAL FIRE FIGHTING PROCEDURES: None  
UNUSUAL FIRE AND EXPLOSION HAZARDS: None  
SPECIAL FIRE FIGHTING PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT: None  
EXTINGUISHING MEDIA: Use extinguishing media appropriate for surrounding fire.

**SECTION V  
HEALTH HAZARD DATA**

Dust generated from this product would be considered a nuisance dust. This product can release nuisance dust if sanding. Eye, skin, nose, throat, and upper respiratory irritation may occur with prolonged dust exposure.

**EFFECTS OF OVEREXPOSURE:**

**ACUTE:**

**EYES:** Direct contact can cause mechanical irritation of eyes. If burning, redness, itching, pain or other symptoms persist or develop, consult physician.

**SKIN:** Direct, prolonged or repeated contact with the skin may cause irritation. Rubbing of this product against the skin can result in abrasions. Rinse with water until free of material to avoid abrasions, then wash skin thoroughly with mild soap and water. If irritation persists, consult physician. May dry skin.

**INHALATION:** Inhalation of dust from this product may irritate the nose, throat, lungs, and upper respiratory tract. Persons subjected to large amounts of this dust will be forced to leave area because of nuisance conditions such as coughing, sneezing and nasal irritation from dust. Labored breathing may occur after excessive inhalation. If respiratory symptoms persist, consult physician.

**INGESTION:** No known effects.

**CHRONIC:**

**EYES:** None known.

**SKIN:** None known.

**INHALATION:** This product may contain small amounts of vinyl acetate monomer, vapors of which have been shown to cause tumors in the respiratory tract of laboratory animals. Chronic overexposure to vinyl acetate is not expected to occur during normal handling and use of this product. Vinyl acetate has been shown to cause irritation and cancer in inhalation studies with laboratory animals. Test levels of 600ppm over a lifetime caused an increase in tumors in the respiratory tract of the test animals. 200ppm caused irritation. No tumors were observed in the animals exposed at 50ppm or lower. There is no evidence of adverse effects to humans exposed to levels at or below the TLV.

Chronic overexposure to respirable crystalline silica may result in lung disease (i.e., silicosis) and/or lung cancer. Prolonged and repeated breathing of respirable mica may cause lung disease.

**INGESTION:** No known effects.



SECTION V  
HEALTH HAZARD DATA  
(Continued)

EMERGENCY AND FIRST AID PROCEDURES:

**EYES:** Flush thoroughly with plenty of water for 15 minutes to remove particles. If irritation persists, consult physician.

**SKIN:** Rinse with water, then wash with mild soap and water. A commercially available hand lotion may be used to treat dry skin areas. If skin has become cracked, take appropriate action to prevent infection and promote healing. If irritation persists, consult physician.

**INHALATION:** Remove to fresh air. Leave the area of dust exposure and remain away until coughing and other symptoms subside. Other measures are usually not necessary, however if conditions warrant, contact physician.

**INGESTION:** No harmful effects expected. No specific recommendation. If gastric disturbance occurs, call physician.

**TARGET ORGANS:** Eyes, skin, and respiratory system.

**MEDICAL CONDITIONS WHICH MAY BE AGGRAVATED:** Pre-existing upper respiratory and lung diseases such as, but not limited to, bronchitis, emphysema and asthma.

**PRIMARY ROUTE OF ENTRY:** Inhalation; Eye and/or Skin contact.

CARCINOGENICITY OF INGREDIENTS:

MATERIAL	IARC	NTP
respirable crystalline silica	2A	Anticipated
acetaldehyde	2B	Anticipated
vinyl acetate monomer	2B	Not Listed

The quantity of respirable crystalline silica has not been determined in this product. Respirable crystalline silica is classified by IARC as a (2A) probable human carcinogen. Long-term breathing of large amounts of silica may cause lung disease (i.e., silicosis) and/or possibly lung cancer.

USG has measured exposure levels to respirable crystalline silica in actual joint compound product applications at job sites. Results of this industrial hygiene testing for USG joint compounds showed no detection of respirable crystalline silica following NIOSH Method 7500.

Vinyl acetate monomer and acetaldehyde, if present, are trace components of the vinyl acetate polymer. Quantities of monomer have not been measured but would be expected to be less than 0.1 Wt.%.



## **SECTION VI REACTIVITY DATA**

**STABILITY:** Stable  
**HAZARDOUS POLYMERIZATION:** Will not occur.  
**INCOMPATIBILITY:** None known.  
**HAZARDOUS DECOMPOSITION:** CO<sub>2</sub> would be produced at high temperatures with the decomposition of limestone (~800°C). Stable under normal temperature and pressure. Product contains low level of organic volatiles which may be emitted or released in application processes involving the use of heat. Vent all ovens and process vessels to the outside atmosphere. Thermal decomposition will produce H<sub>2</sub>O, CO<sub>2</sub>, CO, and acetic acid. Could produce vinyl acetate monomers when temperature is above 175°C.

## **SECTION VII SPILL OR LEAK PROCEDURES**

**STEPS TO BE TAKEN IN CASE MATERIAL IS RELEASED OR SPILLED:** Use normal clean up procedure. Spilled material can produce slippery conditions, be cautious to avoid falling. Wear appropriate protective equipment. Shovel material from spillage into a waste container for disposal.  
**WASTE DISPOSAL METHOD:** Dispose of material in accordance with federal, state, and local regulations.

## **SECTION VIII SPECIAL PROTECTION INFORMATION**

No TLV assigned to this mixture, see Ingredients Section. Minimize dust exposures in accordance with good hygiene practice.

**RESPIRATORY PROTECTION:** Not typically necessary under normal conditions of use. Provide general ventilation and local exhaust ventilation to meet TLV requirements of individual ingredients and to control dusting conditions. Wear a NIOSH/MSHA-approved respirator when dusty conditions exist, in poorly ventilated areas, and if TLV is exceeded.

**VENTILATION:** Ventilate to keep exposures below TLV. General ventilation is expected to be satisfactory. Use local exhaust ventilation if necessary to control dust.

**PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT:** Wear eye protection (safety glasses or goggles) to avoid particulate irritation of the eye. Gloves or protective clothing are usually not necessary but may be desirable in specific work situations. Wear adequate clothing to minimize chafing or drying of skin.



**SECTION IX  
SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS**

**PRECAUTIONS TO BE TAKEN IN HANDLING AND STORING:**

Normal precautions should be followed in handling, storage, and use. During handling and use wear the appropriate respiratory, eye and skin protection if warranted per environmental conditions.

Use wet sanding technique to reduce dust exposure when finishing joints. See "Finishing and Decorating Gypsum Panels - Wet Sanding, J-610/12-87".

Recommended Storage Methods: Keep from freezing. Store at temperatures less than 120°F. Monomer vapors can be evolved when material is heated.

**OTHER PRECAUTIONS:**

**Δ WARNING**

Dust generated from sanding product may cause eye, skin, nose, throat or respiratory irritation. Use wet-sanding to avoid creating dust. Avoid inhalation of dust and eye contact. If dusty, wear a NIOSH/MSHA-approved respirator. Prolonged and repeated exposure to respirable mica may cause lung disease. Wear eye protection. Provide good general ventilation and local exhaust ventilation to avoid excessive amounts of dust. If eye contact occurs, flush thoroughly with water for 15 minutes. If irritation persists, call physician. Do not ingest. If ingested, call physician. Product safety information: (800) 507-8899.

**KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN.**

**INFORMATION FOR HANDLING AND IDENTIFICATION OF CHEMICAL HAZARDS:**

NFPA Ratings:    Health: 0       Fire: 0       Reactivity: 0       Other: N/A

HMIS Ratings:    Health: 0       Fire: 0       Reactivity: 0

Personal Protection: Use eye and skin protection. Use NIOSH/MSHA-approved respiratory protection when necessary.

- 0 Minimal Hazard
- 1 Slight Hazard
- 2 Moderate Hazard
- 3 Serious Hazard
- 4 Severe Hazard